

THE ALMA RECORD

VOL. XLII—NO. 43

\$2.00 the year—5c the copy

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1920

FOURTEEN PAGES

WHOLE NUMBER 2173

SMITH REPUBLIC VICE PRESIDENT

John N. Willys Makes Announcement of New Official for Alma Plant.

HAS HAD WIDE EXPERIENCE

Years of Work in Automotive Field Will Lend Strength to Organization.

Mr. John N. Willys, president of the Republic Motor Truck Co., Inc., announces that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of that company held in New York on Friday, November 5th, Mr. W. J. Baxter, first vice president of the company, resigned that position, and Col. Frank E. Smith, well known in the automotive industry, was elected a director and first vice president, to succeed Mr. Baxter.

Col. Smith arrived in Alma Monday in company with Mr. Shepherd, treasurer of the company, and at once took up his duties. He will move his family permanently to Alma immediately.

Mr. Willys says that the selection of Col. Smith for this important position was made necessary by reason of the fact that neither Mr. Baxter nor himself are able to give the local situation the time that the business of the company demands.

Mr. Smith will act in the capacity of the direct representative of the president and the board of directors, and because of his long and varied experience in the industry will add great strength to the Republic organization.

Mr. O. W. Hayes continues as vice president with the same duties as previously.

Prior to coming to Alma, Mr. Smith has for many years been connected with the automotive industry, graduating from the manufacture of locomotives to that of building automobiles when the American Locomotive Company in 1904 first brought the Berliet car to this country from France, and out of which the Alco passenger car and truck was developed.

Leaving the American Locomotive Company to become general manager of the American & British Manufacturing Company of Bridgeport, many of the early types of successful internal combustion engines were built under his direction, notably the Thomas-Detroit or Chalmers-ford which was the most efficient motor of that day.

In 1909 Smith went to New Castle, Indiana, and built up for the Maxwell-Briscoe Motor Company, what was then the largest complete automobile unit under one roof in the world, and operated the plant as general manager until the failure of the United States Motor Company dragged the Maxwell Company into receivership, when he was chosen receiver, and assisted in the reorganization of the business.

Representing Indianapolis banks, Mr. Smith successfully liquidated the American Motors Corporation of Indianapolis, and then reorganized the Premier Motor Manufacturing Company and housed the business in a new plant in Indianapolis under the name of the Premier Motor Corporation. Mr. Smith acted for a short time as vice president and general manager of the reorganized Premier, and during this period brought out the Premier aluminum six with electric gear shift.

With the entrance of the United States into the World War, Smith went to Washington and offered his services to the Government, first working as a civilian in the Production Division of the Ordnance Department and then in the Equipment Division of the Signal Corps.

There was a demand for a practical manufacturer in whom both the Government and the Automotive Trade had confidence, to organize the Finance Division of the Signal Corps and direct its activities and Smith was chosen for this work, accepting a commission as Captain in the Signal Corps in the summer of 1917, and serving in various grades in Air Service, through to the spring of 1919, when he was honorably discharged as Colonel, Air Service, and returned to civilian life.

During this period of almost two years Smith saw the Country's capacity for the manufacture of aircraft start from practically nothing and assume immense proportions, and is a firm believer in the importance and great possibilities of aviation, both in times of peace and war, and also the ability of American engineers and manufacturers to keep step with the progress of the art.

After leaving the army, Col. Smith opened an office in New York, and has since devoted his time to advisory work for various institutions, and more particularly to the reorganization and refinancing of industrial enterprises.

Be sure to bring your friends with boxes to the Program Box Social and other attractions at the Ely school, south of Alma Friday evening, Nov. 19.—adv. 73-1-w

Two 2-ton trucks for long and short distance moving. Call 395 or 671.—72-tf

BANQUET HELD Zeta Sigma Society Held Banquet Saturday Evening.

The thirty-second Annual Banquet of the Zeta Sigma Literary society of Alma college was given in the Odd-fellows Hall on Saturday evening, November 6th.

The guests, many of whom were from out of town, former students of the college, and the members of Zeta Sigma and Alpha Theta gathered at six o'clock and sat down to a very sumptuous seven course banquet. The banquet hall was very beautifully decorated for the occasion with streamers of blue and white which formed a canopy over the long tables. Strings of small blue and white bunting were suspended under the canopy, and the programs, with blue covers, and favors, white carnations, carried out the general effect of the other decorations.

Music was furnished throughout the supper by an orchestra, and the Zeta Sigma quartette gave one number during the program which was most enjoyed. Allen Follette acted as toastmaster and Captain and introduced in a fitting manner the following speakers: Lee Sharrar, Subject, "Concentration"; Esther Friedrich, subject, "Association"; Lowell Hudson, subject, "Determination"; Robert Adams, subject, "Hallucination"; Robert Wyatt, subject, "Prognostication"; J. S. Supernaw, subject, "Affiliation." Supt. of Public Instruction, T. E. Johnson who was to have closed the program was unable to be present on account of sickness but his place was ably filled by Dean Mitchell who spoke on "Characterization."

After drinking a toast to Zeta Sigma and Alpha Theta, the Zeta Sigma song was sung by the assembled company and the people then adjourned to the college gymnasium to complete the general good time by dancing until twelve o'clock.

EXPLAIN TROUBLE OF GAS COMPANY

Too Much Sulphur in Coal Has Caused Disagreeable Fumes in Gas.

With a view of endeavoring to remedy the trouble which has been experienced locally, because of sulphur fumes in the gas which has been furnished by the Gratiot County Gas Company, William E. Reynolds, city manager, recently took up the matter with the Michigan Utilities Commission, and has been informed by the commission that the trouble had come from a few carloads of coal that contained coal that was high in sulphur.

The letter, which Manager Reynolds received from the commission, and which explains the entire matter follows:

"Mr. W. E. Reynolds, City Manager of City of Alma, Michigan.

"Dear Sir: This office is in receipt of your letter dated October 30th relative to the sulphur content of gas now being furnished by the Gratiot County Gas Company to its consumers at Alma.

"This matter was taken up with the company last week. We found that the gas company had received two car loads of coal which were high in sulphur; in fact, too high for gas use. It seems that they did not become aware of the fact until the coal had been carbonized and the gas sent out. The excess of sulphur quickly caused the neutralization of the iron oxide in the purifier which permitted the passing of sulphur through to the mains. The company was forced to send to Bay City for more oxide and until that had arrived purification of the gas was impossible. I have been given to understand, however, that the gas is now without impurities.

"Since the coal shortage during the last year many of the gas companies throughout the State have had the same trouble which has been caused by their inability to secure standard grades of gas coal. It usually takes from a week to ten days for a company to get straightened out after having received a shipment of high sulphured coal.

"I would appreciate your notifying this office relative to the purity of the gas at this time.

"Yours very truly,

"Fred R. Harris, Chief Engineer."

ATTENTION EX-SOLDIERS

The attention of all ex-soldiers who served in the war with Spain, at home or abroad, or those who saw service in the Philippine Insurrection or in the China Relief Expedition and widows of such former soldiers, is called to laws recently passed by congress, which are of the utmost interest to soldiers. If they will send their name and address to Walter S. Buchanan, National Aid-Camp, Army and Navy Union, Route 2, Louisiana, Va., he will be glad to advise them fully as to their rights under the new law. Prompt attention will mean the possible saving of money, as the pension commences with the filing of the claim. Mr. Buchanan wishes to aid his comrades in every possible way, and requests that they write him enclosing stamp for reply.

"The Fall of Babylon"—Coming.—adv.

NEW GARAGE NEARLY READY

Johnson & Thompson Move To Their New Quarters Yet This Week.

BUILDING IS A FINE ONE

Large Floor Space in Structure to Take Care of Rapidly Growing Business.

Alma's new \$35,000 Ford garage at the corner of Superior street and Park avenue, will be opened for business not later than Monday according to present plans, as Johnson & Thompson, Ford dealers, now expect that they will be able to move into the new quarters the latter part of this week, where they will have much more room for their business, something that they have been badly in need of for months.

Without a question the new Ford Garage is the most modern and up-to-date garage of the kind in this part of the state, the proprietors and Ford agents having made every effort to erect not only a building suitable for their needs, but one that will contain pleasant waiting and rest rooms for their patrons, and a structure that will be well in keeping with the progress of a hustling city like Alma.

There is still some days work to be done in the new building, and until it has been brought to completion, the proprietors are unable to decide upon a date for the formal opening of the new place, but it is believed that the work will have advanced to a sufficient extent that they will be able to announce the date of the opening in another week.

Part of the work that remains to be done is the completion of the installing of the heating plant, which is being rushed rapidly, and is expected to be finished within a day or two. Some of the other work that remains to be done will take a longer period.

It has been expected that the work on the structure would have been finished some weeks earlier, but the difficulty that was met with in the procuring of some of the materials, made it impossible to complete the building as early as had been expected.

The building, which is constructed on the northwest corner of Superior and Park, has a frontage of 80 feet in depth. It is one story and basement in height, and constructed of faced brick. Large plate glass windows cover the front, except for the entrance into the office and display room, all automobile entrances being on the Park avenue side of the building, well towards the back of the structure. The first forty feet of the building on Park avenue, back from Superior street also has a large plate glass window. Numerous smaller windows furnish plenty of light for the work rooms, etc., of the garage.

The display room and the offices, located in the front of the structure are about 35 by 20 feet. A mezzanine floor which spreads over the entire width of the building, contains the rest rooms, toilets, etc., for ladies.

To the rear of the offices and display room are located a parts room about 35 by 40 feet, in which will be carried a full stock of parts for both Fordson tractors and Ford automobiles. The room for car repair will be about 118 feet by 25 feet, being large enough to accommodate fifteen automobiles at one time for repair work. There will also be the wash room and polishing room, etc.

The rest rooms are to be fitted up with wicker furniture, the proprietors of the garage being out to make the rooms just as comfortable as possible, and it is safe to say that they will show Alma a garage second to none in this part of the state, when the formal opening is held. Dates for the formal opening will probably be announced next week.

ST. MARY'S BELL BLESSED

Tuesday, Nov. 16th, will take place the Blessing of the new bell for St. Mary's church. The ceremony will take place at 10:30 a. m., and will consist of Solemn High Mass, with sermon by Rev. John E. Troy, who built the original church in Alma, and who is well known to many of Alma's old citizens.

Immediately after the Mass, Rt. Rev. Edward D. Kelly, Bishop of Grand Rapids, will proceed to the blessing of the bell. The ceremonies used will be explained in the sermon. Everyone is cordially invited to attend, regardless of creed.

NEAR EAST RELIEF

A special meeting will be held in the Presbyterian church on Monday evening, at 8:00, for the purpose of organizing a community effort for the relief of sufferers in Armenia and surrounding countries. All lodges and societies are asked to cooperate in this work.

St. Johns Guild chicken pie supper Friday evening, Nov. 12, 5:30. Every one invited.—adv.

HELD UP Alma Man Forced to Leave His Auto When Boozer Pulls Gun.

Howard Willard, well known Alma resident, and for a number of years a field man for the Alma plant of the Michigan Sugar Company, had a new and novel experience come to him Monday, when he was confronted it is said, with a gun in the hands of John Miller, farmer living two miles east of Alma, and kept away from his automobile, in which he had driven to the place just shortly before.

When Miller first objected to Willard taking the car, the latter became rather insistent, naturally, that he be allowed to take his own auto. Then, it is said, Miller went into the house and got a gun, and returning covered Willard and informed him that it would be advisable to vacate.

This Willard did. Officers were called both from Alma and from Ithaca, who reached the place at about the same time. Miller was subdued by the officers, and taken to Ithaca.

It was then found, it is said, that Miller had been drinking, and officers making a search of the place found parts of a still, including coils, etc.

Two guns, a revolver, and a stick of dynamite are also said to have been found by the officers, when they searched the property.

COLLEGE ELEVEN DEFEATED AGAIN

Aerial Game Gives Hillsdale a Big Advantage Over the Alma Team.

A stiff defensive game by the Alma line in the first quarter of Saturday's fray with Hillsdale, forced the visitors to turn from straight football at the beginning of the second quarter to the aerial game, which proved the downfall of Coach Steele's Maroon and Cream team, the Blue and White getting away with numerous passes during the balance of the battle, which enabled her to win 36 to 0.

The Alma team went into the game with a badly crippled backfield. Walker, injured Wednesday night in a previous game, was on, and was unable to play. Handley, out since the Albion game, was back in uniform for the first time since the Olivet game, and in far from good condition. Zastro, who had not practiced since the Ypsilanti game the previous week, was also in poor shape for a hard battle, putting Coach Steele up against it for a set of backs that could perform effectively.

Naturally the Alma backfield did not perform in the style that the Maroon and Cream followers expected, but the men must be given credit for putting up a beautiful scrap under such highly adverse conditions. Hillsdale resorted to straight football during the first quarter, and was unable to gain consistently against the Alma line, which time and again held the visitors forcing them to punt. Alma, during the first quarter had one fine scoring chance, but it could not be improved. Hillsdale holding solidly, when Alma threatened her goal.

In the second half the visitors opened up an aerial attack that swept the Maroon and Cream off its feet, and counted 20 points before the period ended. A long pass Beck to O. Kirk, early in the quarter, which went for twenty yards, and a sprint of almost the same distance, gave Hillsdale her first quarter.

The ball was brought out for the goal kick. The ball was grounded before the kicker realized it. Capt. Baribeau of the Alma team ran out and dropped on the ball, making it impossible to kick the goal. S. Watkins, quarterback, who was to kick the goal, then ran up and kicked Baribeau in the middle of the back, almost everyone on the field seeing the kick administered, as they were watching for the attempt at goal. The crowd immediately surged onto the field, and it was some little time before the field could be cleared and play resumed. Because of the action of the crowd, Referee Crisp refused to impose the disqualification penalty on Watkins. The affair was without question, the most unsportsmanlike action that has ever been witnessed on an Alma field, not only by Watkins, but by the crowd as well. Regardless of what Watkins might have done, action in regard to it was up to the officials, and not the crowd. Numerous town people and many college students were among the crowd that surged to the field and around the Hillsdale team when the incident took place. It was a deplorable thing that Watkins should have done what he did, but it was just as deplorable that the crowd should have taken the action that it did, without giving Referee Crisp an opportunity to impose the penalty that certainly would have come. What is more surprising perhaps, is the fact that the Hillsdale coach would leave Watkins in the game for a single minute, after the deliberate kicking fray in which he indulged, as there was no question as to the action being deliberate and not accidental.

During the balance of this quarter Kirk pulled several other passes out (Continued on page five)

LEGION READY TO CELEBRATE

George W. Myers Post To Give Alma a Real Armistice Day Attraction.

POST PROMISES BIG AFFAIR

Aerial Bombing, Big Parade, a Military Ball and a Gridiron Game Listed.

The George W. Myers Post No. 132, American Legion, of this city is all set and marking time until 10:30 a. m. Thursday, when the big armistice celebration here will be started, continuing until late in the evening without a let up, making a day that promises to be long remembered.

The day's doings will start promptly at 10:30 with an aerial bombardment of the city, which will continue until 11:00 o'clock.

At that time the big parade, headed by the Masonic band, and containing ex-service men in uniform, will be formed at the city hall and march west on Superior street to the college campus, where short patriotic exercises will be held, including the presentation of the American flag to the post by the W. R. C.

The program for the exercises at the college follows: Song—"America." Presentation of American Flag by W. R. C.

Acceptance of Flag by local post. Address—Professor Hamilton.

Song—"Star Spangled Banner."

At the close of these exercises the parade will re-form, and march back to the city hall to be followed by a luncheon in the high school gymnasium, given by the local post to the visiting service men. Jack Haggert will act as toastmaster at the banquet.

At 1:30 p. m. a band concert will be given by the Masonic band, at the corner of State and Superior streets.

The big football game between the team representing the George W. Myers Post, of the American Legion, will clash with the Alma College team at 3:00 p. m. on Davis field, and promises to be a hot encounter.

At 8:00 p. m. in the post office hall that has been planned on some weeks, and it promises to be one of the real events of the day.

FARM BUREAU

Organization in Gratiot County Now Under Way.

The Farm Bureau drive in Gratiot county is well under way at this time and will be completed by November 15. The townships of North Star, New Haven, Fulton, Newark, North Star, Washington, Hamilton and Elba have been canvassed with a membership of nearly 750. The follow-up campaign will bring this to 900 in the southern half of the county.

Organization meetings will be held in each township to organize the township units and to elect and instruct the county delegates who will form the county organization.

A big Farm Bureau mass meeting of all the members of the county will be held Tuesday, November 16, at the Armory in Ithaca. At this time the county delegates will perfect the county organization.

Dr. Eben Mumford of the State Farm Bureau will be the principle speaker at this meeting. Everybody is invited to come and help make this the greatest agricultural meeting in the history of the county.

The township organization meetings are to be held in the various township halls as follows: North Star and New Haven, Nov. 11, 2 p. m.

Fulton and Newark, Nov. 11, 8 p. m.

Washington and North Star, Nov. 12, 2 p. m.

Hamilton, Nov. 12, 8 p. m.

Sumner and Seville, Nov. 13, 10 a. m.

Pine River and Arcadia, Nov. 13, 2 p. m.

Bethany and Emerson, Nov. 15, 2 p. m.

These organization meetings are very important as the success of the County Farm Bureau depends upon the men who are elected as delegates to form this organization.

The organization meeting in Elba will be held in the Bohemian hall at Bannister, Nov. 12 at 8 p. m.

STAG BANQUET

Phi Phi Alpha Society Held Affair at the Wright House.

On Saturday evening the annual stag banquet of the Phi Phi Alpha society of Alma College was held at the Wright House, being attended by nearly forty members of the society.

Following a delightful banquet, with Lyle D. Barnhart, acting as toastmaster, the following toasts were responded to: "The Needs of the Hour" by Hartzell Lyons; "For Men Only" by Roger Zimm; "The Coming Year" by Thomas Dasef. Professor Hamilton brought the program to a close with a pleasing address.

Home made candies and confections at the Deluxe Candy Shop.—adv.

LOCALS WIN High School Wins Over Greenville Eleven 7 to 0.

The Alma High School football team put over another victory Friday defeating Greenville high at Greenville under conditions that were anything but good, a lone touchdown and the resultant goal kick being the margin of the locals. At that it does not show the superiority of the Alma clan over the Greenvilleites.

The only score of the game came late in the second quarter, when a long forward pass, that went thirty yards, Stearns to Brad Sartor, put the latter in a position to romp over the goal with the counter. Alma kicked the goal, making her total seven.

The game was hard fought from start to finish as the score would indicate, but excessive penalties on the part of the Greenville officials killed off several Alma scoring chances, once calling the ball back for the inflicting of a penalty, after the locals had crossed the Greenville goal. Time and again Alma carried the ball into Greenville territory, but in two of the four quarters, they were unfortunate in having to travel the last few yards through heavy sand, and in both periods Greenville managed to hold Alma away from the goal. In the other two periods heavy penalties cost counters for the locals.

Greenville put up a fine battle, at every stage of the game, and at times made good gains against the Orange and Black, but when punch was needed to shove over touchdowns, the Alma team would brace and hold so solidly that Greenville had no chance to score.

Stanley Sartor, Stearns, Brad Sartor and Marzoff all played in splendid form for the locals, especially Stearns, who put up the best brand of football that he has shown this year.

EX-SERVICE MEN GET SCHOLARSHIPS

Number of Gratiot Men Aided By Work of Educational Department of "Y."

The educational committee of the Gratiot County Y. M. C. A. under the direction of Secretary Merdick, has arranged for scholarships for about twenty Gratiot county former service men in conjunction with the plans of the War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A. for free scholarships and educational service for former service men.

More than \$6,000,000 has been appropriated by the War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A. for this work in the United States, and it will enable hundreds of former service men to secure a free tuition in extension courses of universities and colleges, tuition in correspondence schools, etc. So far 35,582 men have been aided in this country.

The Gratiot committee had \$784 available as its share of the quota for this work, but because other counties have not used their full amount, more than this was available and so far about twenty former service men have received aid from this fund, in their efforts to secure a better education. Some other scholarships are still available, it is reported.

Four men who are attending Alma college have received some financial aid from this committee. The amount that the four college men get totals \$270.

In addition to this seventeen men have been granted scholarships, or a fixed amount to apply on scholarships in various schools, the amount in these cases totaling \$1,170.00.

Alma has a quota for this work of \$2,000 of which \$1,200 has already been raised, and a campaign will be waged to secure the balance of the amount that is sought.

ROLLER RINK

New Skating Rink Will Be Opened in Ford Garage Building.

The Ford Garage building on East Superior street has been leased to J. Foch of Petoskey who announces that on Saturday a new roller skating rink will be opened at that location under the name of the Palace Roller Rink.

The Ford Garage, which was acquired by C. M. Johnson, several years ago, was before that time used as a skating rink for some years, the large floor space, making it an ideal place for such a place. Workmen are now busy there with an electric scraper, which is smoothing down the roughened floor, again making it suitable for a skating rink.

It is the plan of Mr. Foch to have the rink open every night, following the opening Saturday. The matinee Saturday afternoon will be for the youngsters of the city.

Mr. Foch has had experience in the roller skating business in a number of states in the Union, and may be depended upon to give Alma a first class skating rink at the new location.

William Brewbaker left this week for New York where he has accepted a fine position with the International Baking association.

Watch for "The Lost City"—adv. "Go and Get It"—adv.

HAENSEL GAVE GOOD ADDRESS

Members of Board of Trade Secured Valuable Ideas From Talk.

RE-ORGANIZATION PLAN READY

Educational Campaign and the Membership Drive Were Questions Discussed.

Nearly 100 business and professional men of the city attended the Board of Trade meeting held in the city hall Tuesday evening, at which time the work has so far been done in bringing about the reorganization of the board into an effective Chamber of Commerce, and the work that still remains to be done, was outlined. An address of unusual merit regarding the work of a chamber of commerce was given by Charles W. Haensel, manager of the Port Huron Chamber of Commerce, that held the close attention of those present.

The meeting was opened by a short "community sing," and this was followed by short addresses by Harry Gerber, president of the local Board of Trade, and E. H. Reece, secretary, who outlined the work that has so far been done by the board, and who explained the steps that are yet to be taken in bringing about an effective Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Reece took up the work that still remains to be done in the reorganizing of the board, which consists of an educational campaign covering a three-weeks period, and a drive for memberships, which will follow the educational campaign and then the election of a board of directors for the Chamber of Commerce.

Charles W. Haensel was then called upon for an address on the work of a chamber of commerce, and community spirit.

In opening his address Mr. Haensel stated that the human element was all that there is to work with in making a successful chamber of commerce. He then stated that cities were the product of men and not natural resources, proving his contention by examples that the largest cities of the country furnished. He stated that Chicago did not secure its growth from an unexcelled harbor, but because men willed Chicago to become a great city; that Michigan City, near Chicago, had a much better harbor, yet traffic went around Michigan City to Chicago. Grand Rapids did not secure its success as a furniture city because forests were in the vicinity, but because men so willed. Nearly 90 per cent of the furniture made there is made from mahogany transported thousands of miles, he stated. Newark, N. J., did not become the leather center because cattle roamed the marsh land of that state, but because of the human element; the same was true of textile New England, which does not raise cotton. Detroit became the automobile center because men so willed, and not because it possessed any great natural advantages, but because far sighted men there had organized to promote the city and acquired confidence in what they were doing, and because they were seeking the greatest good for the greatest number; because those far-sighted men were 100 per cent residents of their city.

He then asked the Alma business men how many of them were 100 per cent for Alma. How many were 90 per cent, and stated that the assets and the liabilities of a community were measured in its men.

A chamber of commerce is not only to secure industries for a community he stated, but to aid in making the "city beautiful," look into the social and moral factors of the community, to create an atmosphere of progress, to create the giving habit that makes for the greatest good for the greatest number, to establish a custom of appreciation for civic work done.

He then mentioned a few of the things which the Port Huron Chamber of Commerce had done in this respect, opened an employment bureau, a rental bureau, a traffic department, a road department, etc.

His address was warmly greeted by the business men of the city who realized that it was the best address on the subject of a Chamber of Commerce, that had ever been given here.

Charles G. Rhodes was then called upon, and he spoke of the necessity of co-operation in making the forthcoming membership campaign a success. He called attention to some cards, which were being passed out asking those present to sign them, and to indicate on what days during the campaign they might be used by the board. Every man present signed and turned in a card, offering at least one day's service in making the forth-coming campaigns a big success, which should insure the Chamber of Commerce getting a flying start.

Long and short distance moving. Call 395 or 671.—72-tf

Watch for "The Lost City"—adv.

"Go and Get It"—adv.